

North County High School PTSA  
Meeting Minutes  
October 18, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:37 p.m.

**In attendance:** Alison Cherowitzo; Amy Powis; Joanne Morton; Wanda Behnke; Sally Wood; Ebonie Riley; Lindsey Bruce; Nancy Sumwalt; Heather Johnson; Lisa Crittenden; Sonya Sutter; Erica Holsey; Cyrus Bruce; and Eric Jefferson.

**Welcome: Sonya Sutter**

President Sonya Sutter welcomed all in attendance. Introductions were made.

**Approval of September 2017 Minutes**

Prior minutes were reviewed.

- Motion: Lisa C. motioned and Lindsey B. seconded to approve September 20, 2017 meeting minutes as written.
- Vote: Motion carried
- Resolved: Minutes from the September 20, 2017 meeting approved, as written.

**Discussion re: Homecoming Dance**

Amy P. mentioned that there was an hour delay for her son to get in to the Homecoming dance. Per Mr. Jefferson, there were seven people checking in about 1,200 tickets. The doors opened at 6:30 p.m. At 7:00 p.m., there were about 900 people to check in. Next year there will be more lines for those with signed tickets and a separate line for those who need to be checked in. Students are encouraged to come early. Ticket sales for approximately 30-40 students were denied due to capacity and the number of chaperones.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Mr. Jefferson said he sent something to the teachers to encourage more membership.

**Principal's Report: Mr. Jefferson**

Knight Time started last week. Grade sheets are distributed weekly. Conversations are held with teachers with large numbers of failing students. There was a slight increase in "activities" (hyper students). They are striving to make the school better. They have daily PBIS incentives: Chick-fil-A; football tickets; candy. There are drawings for each grade level.

About 2-3% of the students have problems. They are focusing on the 98% that are good. Overall the school year is going well. There are about 400 Admin. walk-throughs in the classrooms. They are focusing on instruction and strategies for achievement.

Mr. Jefferson thanked the PTSA for our service.

Discussion was held about possibly increasing Knight Time to four-days-per-week. It is too soon to ask for Knight Time on Fridays. So far Fridays went well.

Ebonie R. thanked Mr. Jefferson for improving communication. They will increase ConnectEd for upcoming events (vendor fair, Senior banners, food nights). Messages should be e-mailed to Mr. Jefferson and Ms. Gossage. Announcements can go to Advisory for their classes; Mr. Jefferson will make sure Advisory teachers will distribute them to students with grade sheets; provide to Mr. Jefferson and Ms. Gossage by Wednesday or Thursday.

Lisa C. said some Senior banner orders came in right after texts/ConnectEd went out; can send another message next week.

We can send messages to Mr. Fowlkes (cc: Ms. Gossage) to distribute. Ebonie R. sent a message on 10/13, but he has been out of the office. Ms. Lewis should get messages for Faculty.

Mr. Jefferson told the teachers about our grab-n-go snacks tomorrow for parent/teacher conferences and will remind them again tomorrow. We can use the cafeteria for this.

### **Teacher's Report: Ms. Holsey**

Ms. Holsey introduced herself. She is an Evening High School and Special Ed (9<sup>th</sup> grade) teacher and is working on her Admin. certification. She is also the Equity liaison.

They appreciate the snacks. The back-to-school lunch was amazing.

School is going well so far. They did hit a wall; everyone was overwhelmed. They are staying positive and building relationships with the students.

She spoke about the Equity Board (not equality) and the needs of the teachers and students. Empathy is this year's initiative. We need to support the teachers and students, be sensitive, and bring awareness of societal, community and political issues. She will give us a blurb to post.

Advisory meetings -- Meaningful Mondays. They play a clip and the students can reflect; work on diversity; break down walls of stereotypes. She will share the clip with us. Ebonie R. shared our twitter address. Ms. McVey retweets the posts.

Heather J. shared her empathy conversation with her son.

They will add a message regarding the empathy theme at the end of all messages.

Joanne M. discussed the need to review this, especially with Special Ed students.

Ebonie R. talked about the After-Prom meeting last week and asked if we can do a school-wide event for a fundraiser. Discussion was held about a possible dunking booth, a Spring Fling/carnival with buckets of water instead, whipped cream pies in the face (like Reddi wip®), or water balloons. This can benefit individual groups. Can possibly have something around Spring Break.

### **Old Business**

By-Laws: The draft new By-Laws were compared to the current By-Laws. Copies were distributed at September meeting and again today. Proposed changes to the new By-Laws were discussed.

- Motion: Joanne M. motioned and Heather J. seconded to approve the new By-Laws with the changes as agreed upon.
- Vote: Motion carried.
- Resolved: The proposed new By-Laws, as modified, are approved.

PTA Membership Tables at FAFSA Nights: Sonya S. discussed the membership tables for FAFSA nights for the Seniors. We need to get information for other events. At the STEM night, the Juniors presented the program to the Freshman; not that many people attended. The school calendar needs to be updated. Will request Mr. Jefferson review the current calendar with us. Per Lisa C., Ms. Johnston is starting a master calendar (they do not have one currently). We will have tables at future events to increase visibility and promote memberships. Sonya S. will e-mail Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Fowlkes, Ms. Gossage and Ms. Johnston to get dates of other events.

Seniors: Banners and After-Prom: Lisa C. sold two banners at FAFSA night and most of the parents took information. Banner flyers were distributed in Advisory. Sally W. recommended Potbelly sandwiches for a fundraiser. They had 1,200 flyers printed for another event. Hardly any were distributed and they still profited approximately \$300. Lisa C. will send Mr. Bernstein the Flippin' Pizza information for Monday's Advisory classes. Ebonie R. will send as well for a ConnectEd message. The fundraiser is this coming Monday (10/23) from 3 - 7 p.m. After-Prom was discussed. The Prom this year is at the Aquarium. Last year it was at the Stadium.

Financial Reviews: The financial reviews are done. Three years ago, the Council President lost the paperwork. That review is being redone and will be submitted shortly.

Homecoming Dance: Traffic problems were discussed. Maybe PTSA volunteers can help with check-in next year. They used Google Docs this year; it did not appear to be effective. Discussed ways to enhance it next year. Sonya S. to note this for an end-of-year discussion or when we discuss a possible Spring Fling. Ebonie R. reached out to Administration regarding homecoming logistics two weeks in advance, but never got a response.

Gift Card Donations for Staff's Fab Fridays: Fab Fridays are continuing. They can use \$5/\$10 gift card donations. If we don't get any donations, PTSA can purchase some or Mr. Jefferson can purchase some and request reimbursement.

### **Committee Reports**

Membership: Per Alison C., there are 144 memberships to date (102 Parents; 30 Students; 1 Alumni; 11 Staff). We had a total of 180 memberships last year. A "Donate" button will be included on the home page of the website for general donations.

Hospitality: Tomorrow we are doing grab-n-go snacks for the parent/teacher conferences. It is reasonable to do all three conferences. Will send future volunteer and snack requests three weeks in advance through membership e-mails and ConnectEd.

Senior Banners: To date, 11 banners are sold which is an increase from last year at this time. Sonya S. will e-mail Admin. regarding future events to promote this.

After-Prom Breakfast: Six people attended the meeting and six to eight others showed interest. Will schedule next meetings for November and December with Ms. Johnston after Craft/Vendor Fair is over.

Craft/Vendor Fair (10/28/2017): Lisa C. has signs to distribute and post. Ebonie R. sent digital flyers to neighboring businesses.

PTSA Membership Advertising/Faculty Meeting: Sonya S. and Ebonie R. met with Mr. Fowlkes. They will try to attend a Faculty meeting; working with Ms. Lewis on this. Mr. Jefferson will keep promoting membership with the Staff. Lisa C. will resend the link to Ms. Gossage.

### **New Business**

Ready2Drive: A discussion was held regarding the problems Ready2Drive had with getting classrooms. They had to cancel class because they were put in the Media Center and that was against the MVA guidelines. The missed instruction was made up. Ready2Drive gives money back to the PTSA. The next class is in January. The MVA may come to facilitate permit testing here in the future.

Communication: A discussion was held regarding the various forms of communication. Lisa C. monitors all incoming e-mails. What gets posted to the PTSA Facebook page was discussed; cross-promotions on other sites was discussed (Music Boosters posts our events). Sonya S. will check with Maryland PTA regarding our allowing other posts and liability regarding posting pictures. Lisa C. asks in advance if it is okay when she takes pictures at events. Future posts will be run by the Board prior to posting. Stephanie D. will continue as Administrator. Sonya S., Lisa C., Ebonie R. and Michelle F. are Editors. Will need replacements for Lisa, Ebonie and Michelle next year. The possibility of allowing all NCHS groups to post was discussed. They send us their event information to post on Facebook. The Administrators/Editors can schedule posts for next day and Executive Board can review and approve/disapprove before post is scheduled to publish.

Next meeting: 11/15/2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.